

SAINT HELEN'S PARISH
2nd SUNDAY of LENT (Year B)
 Season of Lent + Easter
The Year of the Word

28th February 2021



He Was Transfigured

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: (*Psalter: Week 2*)

Gathering Antiphon (6.30pm):

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.
 It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
 hide not your face from me.

Genesis 22: 1 – 2, 9 – 13, 15 – 18.

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

Response: Psalm 115.

R/: I will walk in the presence of the Lord
 in the land of the living.

Romans 8: 31 – 34.

God did not spare his own Son.

Acclamation for the Gospel:

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
 From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:
 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'
 Glory to you, O Christ!

Mark 9: 2 – 10.

This is my Son, the Beloved.

Prayer of the Faithful: *R/.* Lord, plead for us.

Preface: of Lent Sunday ii **Eucharistic Prayer:** ii.

Communion Antiphon:

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.
 Listen to him.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

Mountain-top experiences: brilliant, illuminating, transformative, but also terrifying.

Jesus is transfigured, not so much changing as appearing fully as he is, with Moses and Elijah, the Law and the Prophets, confirming the revelation. But Peter, James, and John will never be the same again.

And for Abraham and his only son, a new understanding of what God really wants, not death or sacrifice, but life, blessings, and future flourishing: The Covenant renewed.



Lent

What is the point of Lent? –

the Great Three-Days of entry into Christ's saving death-and-Resurrection.

Maundy Thursday

Mass of Our Lord's SUPPER

Good Friday

Celebration of Our Lord's PASSION

Holy Saturday

THE EASTER VIGIL AND MASS

OF OUR LORD'S RESURRECTION

Easter Sunday

Easter Mass of Our Lord's RESURRECTION

Saint Peter, Bargoed

Saint Helen Caerphilly

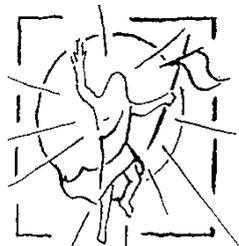
7.30 pm

3.00 pm

6.00pm

8.30 pm

10.30 am

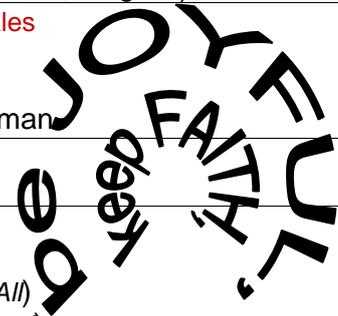


EASTER



MASS AND SERVICES DURING THE WEEK:

Sat 27 th February	6.30pm	2nd SUNDAY OF LENT Mona + Gordon Clinch (JO'B) (<i>Public Mass</i>)
Sun 28 th February	10.30am 6.00pm	for the People of the Parish (<i>Public Mass</i>) for the People of the Parish (<i>Public Mass, Bargoed</i>)
Mon 1 st March	9.45am 10.00am 2.15pm	SAINT DAVID, Bishop, Patron of Wales Morning Prayer of the Church for Vocations (The Catenians) Funeral Service for Catherine Newman
Tues 2 nd March	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Elena Antoniazzi (LA)
Wed 3 rd March	9.45am 10.00am 2- 4pm 2.00pm	Morning Prayer of the Church Teresa Meade(SW) Exposition and Adoration (<i>Open to All</i>) Requiem for Tomasina Gray (<i>Bargoed</i>)
Thurs 4 th March	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Ivor Thomas (PT)
Fri 6 th March	9.45am 10.00am 7.00pm	Morning Prayer of the Church Pat + Terry Jones Zoom Way of the Cross
Sat 6 th March	6.30pm	3rd SUNDAY OF LENT for the People of both Parishes (<i>Public Mass</i>)
Sun 7 th March	10.30am 6.00pm	Pat Emanuelli (SVP) (<i>Public Mass</i>) Len + Evelyn Krizan (JP) (<i>Public Mass, Bargoed</i>)



THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

At any time by arrangement with the priest.

The PARISH PRAYER LIST: Among all those we pray for in this time,

we continue to remember all suffering from the virus and its effects. We remember also:

Eileen Morris	John Maguire	Graham Jenkins	Sandra Bray	Lloyd Jones
Mary Gordine	David Mabey	Isobel Cummins	Pauline Richards	Margaret Jones
Carol Morrissey	Claris Howell	Anne Morgan	Pat Starynski	Yvonne Grandon
Martyn Western	Marjorie Gurney	Carmen Agius	Lowela Teves	Joe Marengi
Pamela and Keith Griffiths	Mary & Wilson Brown	Pino Emanuelli	Katrin Merry	
Sian Thomas	Winifred Benedict	Albert Carley	Mary Everson	Maura Coll
Pat Doheney	Paul Barnaby	Gwyn Bishop	Christine Roberts	

PRAYER CYCLE FOR OUR DIOCESE: Please pray for the People and Parish of Saint

David Lewis and Saint Francis Xavier, Usk, with their priest Revd. Bernard Sixtus, of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham, and their care for Usk Prison, Prescoed Prison, and the annual Pilgrimage to Saint David Lewis.

THE YEAR OF THE WORD – THE GOD WHO SPEAKS



“O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory.”

(Collect, 2nd Sunday of Lent)



When Jesus of Nazareth prefaced his enigmatic sayings with the words, “let those with eyes to see, see, let those with ears to hear, hear,” scholars tell us he was speaking as a teacher of Jewish wisdom, appealing not just to the head but to the whole person of his listener: heart, body, mind, senses, imagination. Like a lure darting and flashing before a fish, Jesus’s words dance and play before the imagination, breaking open our habitual assumptions about “the way things are.” . . . To be “born again” is to break free of the stultifying womb of conventional wisdom. . .

(Christopher Pramuk)

Friday was LENT FAMILY FAST DAY:

If you picked up an envelope last weekend, please place it (full!) in the collection basket at the back as you leave church, If you haven't got an envelope, please place the results of your fasting in the basket marked 'CAFOD'. The unmarked basket is for your parish collection. Also you may donate online at cafod.org.uk/give. You can also easily give via text. Text LENT to 70460 to donate £10.*

**FAMILY
FAST DAY
offertory
collection
Today**



Many thanks for the generous sponsorship already coming in for our Parishioner who is also walking alongside Abdella this Lent by challenging themself to walk 7,500 steps, every day, for 40 days. You too can sponsor them through the form available on the link below, or just put something in an enveloped, marked 'Walk for Water' and post it through the presbytery letterbox':



**Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460. For more information please see our Privacy Policy: cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice*

THE FAMILIES PREPARING CHILDREN FOR RECONCILIATION meet, with the catechists, at 6.30pm on Tuesday, to look at what they have been doing in their books and in the google classroom, and celebrate how God gives us Joy..



The BOOK CLUB meets on Tuesday evening, 7.30pm, to share their reactions to Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, and chose a new book for the rest of Lent,

And don't forget the 'GOOD BOOK': looking at the scriptures for the following Sunday, **7.30pm on Thursdays**: a good preparation, near and remote, for the Ministers of the Word, and for anyone who wishes to meet and greet Christ as he comes to us (as much in his Word shared as in his Body broken).

FRIDAY WAY OF THE CROSS: 7pm, shared with Saint Catherine, Mill Road. To log in this week, please go to <https://beneficeofeglwysilanandcaerphilly.org.uk/services/>, and scroll down to find the blue button which says "Click here to join any Zoom Service".

"WALK WITH ME" for Lent now available in the porch: £1 each, or free if you are going to pray it every day.

An invitation down memory lane:
'I WAS THERE':

When Pope John Paul II came to Wales.
Radio Wales, Thursday 4 March, 6:30pm.

NONVIOLENT: Making a commitment this Lent "...to set aside every act of violence in thought, word, or deed, whether against our neighbour or against God's creation"
(Pope Francis World Day of Peace Message)

A LENT OF COVENANTS:

"The covenant underwent a complete change: First of all God changed the agreement he had made with Adam, and made a fresh one with Noah. God then made a further agreement with Abraham and he changed this so as to make a new one with Moses. The covenant with Moses was not being observed, and now in this last epoch of the world God made yet another covenant, but this one is not going to be changed."
(from the demonstration of Aphraates)

One Year On: Remembering Our Loved-Ones

On 23rd March 2021 we will reach a significant milestone in the country's fight against Coronavirus: for it was on this day that we entered the first of the lockdowns. With these words of the Prime Minister, our lives radically changed, and the era of a 'new normal' was ushered in:

"From this evening I must give the British people a very simple instruction - you just stay home".

Since then, we as a nation have lost over 121,000 lives, with the total here in Wales exceeding 5,000. These are no mere statistics: each number is a life, each life is a memory, each life is a family trying to grieve in such exceptional circumstances.

On Monday, 23rd March, I will celebrate a Solemn Requiem Mass at St. David's Cathedral for all the faithful departed who have died as a consequence of the pandemic. I have opened a Book of Remembrance at the Cathedral, and I invite you to send in the names of your loved-ones who have died over the last year as a result of the pandemic. The Book of Remembrance will be given place of honour at the Requiem Mass before the pascal candle at the Requiem Mass. If you would like the name of your loved one included in the Book of Remembrance, please email Fr. Daniel at cathedral@rcadc.org.

The Solemn Requiem Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral 12:45pm on Monday, 23rd March. Due to limited numbers able to safely be present at the Cathedral, those who may wish to attend will need to reserve a seat by telephoning Fr. Daniel Stanton at Clergy House on 029 20 23 14 07. There are thirty-four spaces available in the Cathedral for yourself or your bubble. These seats will be reserved on a 'first-come-first-served' basis. The Requiem Mass will also be live-streamed through the Cathedral website.

May their souls, and the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.

With every blessing,

Archbishop George Stack.

“The ‘Gospel’ as displayed in the ministry of Jesus
is not a static set of ideas,
but a relationship”

(Pete Ward: ‘Why doesn't Jesus preach the Gospel?’)

VIRTUAL COMMUNITY:

Date	Time	Event
Sat 27 th Feb	6.30pm	Sunday Mass
Sun 28 th Feb	10.30am 11.30am	Sunday Mass 'Coffee Morning': Via Saint Helen's Facebook
Tues 2 nd March	6.30pm 7.30pm	Families Prepare for Reconciliation Parish Book Club
Thur 4 th March	7.30pm	Sharing the Sunday Scriptures
Fri 5 th March	7.00pm	Way of the Cross: see previous page
Sat 6 th March	6.30pm	Sunday Mass
Sun 7 th March	10.30am	Sunday Mass



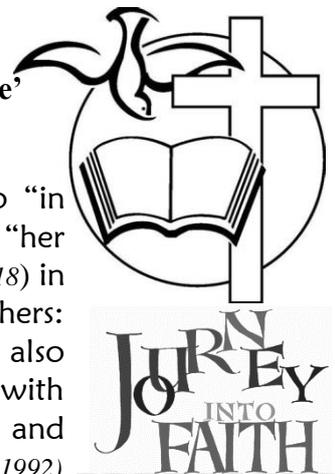
THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Part 1: **THE PROFESSION OF FAITH.** Section 1: 'I Believe' – 'We Believe'

Chapter 3: **Man's Response to God.** Article 1: **I Believe.**

III: The Characteristics of Faith Faith – the Beginning of Eternal Life

(165) It is then we must turn to the *witnesses of faith*: to Abraham, who "in hope. . . believed against hope" (*Romans 4:18*); to the Virgin Mary, who, in "her pilgrimage of faith", walked into the "night of faith" (*LG 58; John Paul II, RMat 18*) in sharing the darkness of her son's suffering and death; and to so many others: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith" (*Hebrews 12:1-2*). (*Catechism of the Catholic Church 1992*)



Ask your MP to support a NEW amendment to help stop forced abortion in Xinjiang, China

There is extensive evidence that many women in the Uyghur Muslim community in Xinjiang, China are being subjected to forced abortions.

Lord Alton is currently championing a new amendment to the Trade Bill, to help put international pressure on the Chinese Communist Party to stop the practice of forced abortions and wider human rights abuses that evidence shows is being perpetuated against the Uyghur community. The amendment passed in the Lords on 23 February by 367 votes to 214, and is likely to be voted on in the Commons shortly.

If you would like to email your MP asking them to support the amendment, you can do this easily using a tool which has been set up on the Genocide Response campaign website, which can be accessed by visiting the link: <https://genocideresponse.org/>

Parish Directory

Priest: Revd. John Kelly 20 883192

Safeguarding Officer: 20864112

Music: 07971848734.

Cafod: 20861930

Saint Helen's School: 20852532

Newsletter items: 20883192

caerphilly@rcadc.org

Website Additions: Website@sthelenscaerphilly.com

Chair of Parish Council:

SVP: 20883462

Hall Bookings: 20883192

Marriage Care: appointments@marriagecare.co.uk

Cardinal Newman School: 01443 494110

Calendar Additions: calendar@sthelenscaerphilly.com

www.sthelenscaerphilly.com

Bereavement support: 20863450

Piety shop: 20862998

